



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

***Raised Bill No. 1005***

LCO No. 2981

Referred to Committee on Program Review and Investigations

Introduced by:  
(PRI)

***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE  
CONCERNING THE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL  
SYSTEM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (a) The Department of Education shall conduct a  
2       study of the relationship between admissions scores and performance  
3       within the regional vocational technical school system using the classes  
4       graduating in 2003, 2004 and 2005.

5       (b) The department shall report periodically, in accordance with this  
6       subsection and section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the study to the  
7       joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance  
8       of matters relating to education and program review and  
9       investigations.

10       (1) On or before September 15, 2001, the department shall describe  
11       (A) the number and distribution of students by class in each of the  
12       regional vocational-technical schools, (B) the format and contents of  
13       the initial data base developed to carry out the study, (C) the  
14       measures, such as the scores on the state-wide tenth grade mastery

15 examination under section 10-14n of the general statutes, grade point  
16 average, class rank, dropout rates, or trade specific assessment tests,  
17 selected to assess the ability of the individual components of the  
18 admissions score to predict success in the vocational-technical school,  
19 and (D) any other factors the department deems relevant to conducting  
20 the study or understanding the results of the study;

21 (2) On or before March 15, 2002, and on or before October 15, 2002,  
22 the department shall describe the progress of the study, including data  
23 collection activities, and any problems that have developed concerning  
24 assessment measures or other relevant factors, and shall provide  
25 statistics on the number of students from each class for the classes  
26 graduating in 2003, 2004 and 2005 who have withdrawn from a  
27 vocational-technical school;

28 (3) On or before March 15, 2003, the department shall present  
29 preliminary results of the study based on data analysis through the  
30 first quarter of the school year commencing in 2002, including the  
31 relevance of the individual components of the admissions score to the  
32 assessment measures;

33 (4) On or before December 30, 2003, the department shall (A)  
34 present final results for the class of 2003, including graduation rates  
35 and the results of the post graduation survey, (B) using such results,  
36 predict the probability of a vocation-technical school student being  
37 successful based on the components of the student's admissions score,  
38 and (C) evaluate the results and discuss whether it feels any changes  
39 are needed in the admissions policies;

40 (5) On or before December 30, 2004, the department shall present  
41 the final results for the class of 2004, and explain any differences  
42 between said class and the class of 2003; and

43 (6) On or before December 30, 2005, the department shall submit its  
44 final report, including (A) final results for the class of 2005, (B) using  
45 such results, predict the probability of a vocational-technical school

46 student being successful based on the elements of the student's  
47 admissions score, and (C) describe any changes it intends to make in  
48 the system's admissions policies.

49 Sec. 2. Section 10-95 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
50 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

51 (a) The State Board of Education may establish and maintain a state-  
52 wide system of regional vocational-technical schools offering full-time,  
53 part-time and evening programs in vocational, technical and  
54 technological education and training. The board may make regulations  
55 controlling the admission of students to any such school. The  
56 Commissioner of Education, in accordance with policies established by  
57 the board, may appoint and remove members of the staffs of such  
58 schools and make rules for the management of and expend the funds  
59 provided for the support of such schools. The board may enter into  
60 cooperative arrangements with local and regional boards of education,  
61 private occupational schools, institutions of higher education, job  
62 training agencies and employers in order to provide general education,  
63 vocational, technical or technological education or work experience.

64 (b) If the New England Association of Schools and Colleges places a  
65 regional vocational-technical school on probation or otherwise notifies  
66 the superintendent of the vocational-technical school system that a  
67 regional vocational-technical school is at risk of losing its accreditation,  
68 the Commissioner of Education shall notify the joint standing  
69 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
70 relating to education of such placement or problems relating to  
71 accreditation.

72 (c) The State Board of Education shall establish specific achievement  
73 goals for students at the vocational-technical schools at each grade  
74 level. The board shall create an index reflecting the performance of  
75 each vocational-technical school and shall identify a set of quantifiable  
76 measures to be used for purposes of such index. The measures shall  
77 include factors such as performance on the state-wide tenth grade

78 mastery examination under section 10-14n, trade-related assessment  
79 tests, dropout rates and graduation rates.

80       Sec. 3. The State Board of Education shall establish a position in the  
81 central office of the vocational-technical school system to provide  
82 outreach to the business community, in conjunction with the trade  
83 instructors in the individual vocational-technical schools.

84       Sec. 4. (NEW) The director of each regional vocational-technical  
85 school shall (1) annually convene a meeting with representatives of all  
86 of the towns that send students to the school to discuss coordination  
87 issues, and (2) quarterly host a meeting with representatives of the  
88 towns whose students comprise more than five per cent of the total  
89 enrollment at the vocational-technical school, measured on October  
90 first, to develop joint programs between the vocational-technical  
91 school and the towns.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To implement the recommendations of the program review and investigations committee concerning the regional vocational-technical school system.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*